

CSM (Retired) EVELYN HOLLIS

UNITED STATES ARMY

Ms Evelyn Hollis entered the U.S. Army on 16 September 1979 as a 71L administrative assistant after completion of Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training. Ms Hollis reclassified into Air Defense Artillery. Ms Hollis was the first African American female in US Army history to assume duties as a Command Sergeant Major for a combat arms unit. After 28 years of active military service, Ms Hollis retired in 2007.

Ms Hollis' held numerous duty positions from squad leader to command sergeant major. Ms Hollis' last duty assignment was as the Command Sergeant Major for 1st Battalion, 56th Air Defense Artillery and 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery. Ms Hollis' served as the operations sergeant major for the 108th Air Defense Artillery Brigade. Ms Hollis graduated Class 51 of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy and Command Sergeants Major Course. Upon retirement, Ms Hollis taught for Socorro and El Paso Independent School Districts. As a contractor, Ms Hollis has worked at the Air Defense Artillery School as a military analyst and as an associate professor for the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy in the Department of Training and Doctrine (DTD). Ms Hollis is also an adjunct professor at Park University and University of Phoenix.

Ms Hollis' stateside assignments included Fort Belvoir, Fort Monmouth, Oklahoma City, and Fort Bliss. Her overseas assignments included Germany and operational deployments to Southwest Asia and Iraq (OPERATIONS SOUTHERN WATCH and IRAQI FREEDOM).

Ms Hollis' has received several awards and decorations throughout her career including the Legion of Merit (LOM), Bronze Star Medal; and the Meritorious Service Medal. Ms Hollis completed all levels of Professional Military Education (PME). Ms Hollis received a Master of Arts Degree in Human Resources Development and Management from Webster University, St. Louis, MO. Ms Hollis is certified as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR). Ms Hollis is currently working on a Doctor of Management with the University of Phoenix.

Ms Hollis is married to Staff Sergeant (Retired) Terrence S. Wright and they have a daughter, Courtney Hollis Wright and granddaughter Ava Raye, 3 cats (Spike, Scully and Diamond) and a dog (Yola).